THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Fencing has already been erected at all such locations where cattle are likely to approach the track at the approximate cost of Rs. 2.2 crores.

AC-3 Tier coach in Madurai-Jammutawi Express

5233. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to introduce AC-3 Tier coach in the Madurai-Jammutawi Express to cater the need of the travelling public; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Provision of AC-3-Tier coaches in long distance overnight trains is an ongoing process subject to traffic pattern, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

Linking of Jaisalmer and Barmer

5234. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of work for construction of 170 km of railway line linking Jaisalmer and Barmer in Rajasthan;

(b) financial allocation on this project:

(c) whether the Railway Board has framed any time schedule for the completion of the work; and

(d) if so, by when the entire project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (d) A survey for construction of rail line between Jaisalmer and Barmer (170 km) in Rajasthan has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 22.95 lakh. Preliminary arrangements are being made to take up the survey. The survey is likely to be completed by March, 2004.

New trains from Rajasthan

5235. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) details of new passenger trains contemplated to commence from Rajasthan to other places of the country;

(b) whether there has been any shift from the original plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, train-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) by when these trains are likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (e) Trains are not introduced State-wise but on the basis of public demand, operational feasibility, commercial justification and availability of resources. However, the following trains announced in Railway Budget, 2003-2004 will originate/terminate in Rajasthan :—

1. 1469/1470 Jabalpur-Kota Express *via* Bina (daily) introduced with effect from 01-04-2003.
2. Jaipur-Udaipur Express *via* Ajmer-Chittaurgarh (MG) (daily)
3. Ajmer-Mumbai Central Express (tri-weekly)
4. Bikaner-Secunderabad Express *via* Kazipet (weekly)
5. Trivandrum-Jodhpur Express *via* Ahmedabad (weekly)
6. Sealdah-Jaipur Express *via* Tundla (weekly).

Gauge conversion of Kanpur-Mathura rail line

†5236. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) by when meter gauge rail line from Kanpur to Mathura will be converted into broad gauge rail line;

(b) the amount sanctioned for the said work in the current year's Budget; and

(c) the details of the amount allocated in the Budget and amount spent in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The work on Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura, Kasganj-Bareilly and Bareilly-Lalkua gauge conversion project is in progress. No target date has yet been fixed.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 23.20 crore has been provided for the project during 2003-04.

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†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.